



News Release

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County of San Diego

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Safety Task Force
of San Diego

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FAST Helps Make Camping Season Safe



San Diego County, CA, May 16, 2005 – Many camping enthusiasts will flock to campgrounds throughout San Diego County after this Memorial Day weekend, marking the beginning of camping season. The Forest Area Safety Taskforce (FAST), in partnership with the County of San Diego, CDF and the US Forest Service, has tree removal projects slated in order to do their part in helping make camping in the mountains as safe as possible.

Local FAST projects, under the Emergency Watershed Protection Program, consist of removing dead, dying and diseased trees from forests and or forested neighborhoods within San Diego County. Many of these trees surround campsites and access roads and if not removed, pose a threat to life and property by acting as a fuel source for wildfires or as falling hazards.

The current FAST tree removal project is located in the Lost Valley Boy Scout Camp, near Warner Springs. The campsite suffered severe damage in wildfires killing trees in a span of over 500 acres. Foresters have marked nearly 2000 trees for removal. “This campsite welcomes a large number of visitors all summer so it’s imperative that we remove these trees for their safety,” says Kelly Strecker, Natural Resources Conservation Service Forester. FAST is proud to help the community by reducing risks to life and property with current and future projects.

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USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service

Hotline: (866) 402-6044

Web Site: <http://www.sdcdpw.org/tree>